

**Assembly Bill No. 517**

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Passed the Assembly    August 18, 2004

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*Chief Clerk of the Assembly*

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Passed the Senate    July 2, 2004

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*Secretary of the Senate*

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This bill was received by the Governor this \_\_\_\_\_ day of  
\_\_\_\_\_, 2004, at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_M.

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*Private Secretary of the Governor*

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

An act to amend Section 21455.5 of the Vehicle Code, relating to vehicles.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 517, Oropeza. Vehicles: automated enforcement system.

Existing law authorizes the limit line, intersection, or other places where a driver is required to stop to be equipped with an automated enforcement system, as defined, if the system meets certain requirements. Existing law requires the photographic records made by an automated enforcement system and related administration or enforcement information to be confidential and allows those records and information to be retained for up to 6 months from the date the information was first obtained or until final disposition of the related citation, whichever date is later.

This bill would allow the described records and information to be retained for up to 13 months, as described, or until final disposition of the citation, whichever date is later. This bill would specify that the records and information are available for judicial purposes. The bill would authorize a law enforcement agency that operates an automated enforcement system to audit retained records.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Section 21455.5 of the Vehicle Code is amended to read:

21455.5. (a) The limit line, the intersection, or a place designated in Section 21455, where a driver is required to stop, may be equipped with an automated enforcement system if the governmental agency utilizing the system meets all of the following requirements:

(1) Identifies the system by signs that clearly indicate the system's presence and are visible to traffic approaching from all directions, or posts signs at all major entrances to the city, including, at a minimum, freeways, bridges, and state highway routes.



(2) If it locates the system at an intersection, and ensures that the system meets the criteria specified in Section 21455.7.

(b) Prior to issuing citations under this section, a local jurisdiction utilizing an automated traffic enforcement system shall commence a program to issue only warning notices for 30 days. The local jurisdiction shall also make a public announcement of the automated traffic enforcement system at least 30 days prior to the commencement of the enforcement program.

(c) Only a governmental agency, in cooperation with a law enforcement agency, may operate an automated enforcement system. As used in this subdivision, “operate” includes all of the following activities:

(1) Developing uniform guidelines for screening and issuing violations and for the processing and storage of confidential information, and establishing procedures to ensure compliance with those guidelines.

(2) Performing administrative functions and day-to-day functions, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(A) Establishing guidelines for selection of location.

(B) Ensuring that the equipment is regularly inspected.

(C) Certifying that the equipment is properly installed and calibrated, and is operating properly.

(D) Regularly inspecting and maintaining warning signs placed under paragraph (1) of subdivision (a).

(E) Overseeing the establishment or change of signal phases and the timing thereof.

(F) Maintaining controls necessary to assure that only those citations that have been reviewed and approved by law enforcement are delivered to violators.

(d) The activities listed in subdivision (c) that relate to the operation of the system may be contracted out by the governmental agency, if it maintains overall control and supervision of the system. However, the activities listed in paragraph (1) of, and subparagraphs (A), (D), (E), and (F) of paragraph (2) of, subdivision (c) may not be contracted out to the manufacturer or supplier of the automated enforcement system.

(e) (1) Notwithstanding Section 6253 of the Government Code, or any other provision of law, photographic records made by an automated enforcement system shall be confidential, and



shall be made available only to governmental agencies and law enforcement agencies and only for the purposes of this article.

(2) Confidential information obtained from the Department of Motor Vehicles for the administration or enforcement of this article shall be held confidential, and may not be used for any other purpose.

(3) Except for court records described in Section 68152 of the Government Code, the confidential records and information described in paragraphs (1) and (2) may be retained for up to 13 months, including the month in which the information described in paragraph (2) was obtained, or until the final disposition of the citation, whichever date is later, after which time the information shall be destroyed in a manner that will preserve the confidentiality of any person included in the record or information.

(4) Records and information retained pursuant to this section shall be available for judicial purposes. The original photographic and electronic records shall be retained pursuant to this section.

(5) A law enforcement agency that operates an automated enforcement system may audit retained records to ensure compliance with a contract entered into under subdivision (d) and the provisions of this section.

(f) Notwithstanding subdivision (e), the registered owner or any individual identified by the registered owner as the driver of the vehicle at the time of the alleged violation shall be permitted to review the photographic evidence of the alleged violation.

(g) (1) A contract between a governmental agency and a manufacturer or supplier of automated enforcement equipment may not include provision for the payment or compensation to the manufacturer or supplier based on the number of citations generated, or as a percentage of the revenue generated, as a result of the use of the equipment authorized under this section.

(2) Paragraph (1) does not apply to a contract that was entered into by a governmental agency and a manufacturer or supplier of automated enforcement equipment before January 1, 2004, unless that contract is renewed, extended, or amended on or after January 1, 2004.



Approved \_\_\_\_\_, 2004

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*Governor*

